

Appl. No. 10/734, 288  
Amendment dated: May 4, 2005  
Reply to OA of: April 6, 2005

**REMARKS**

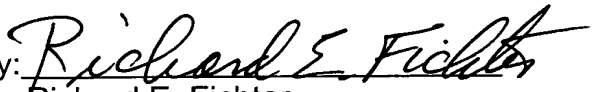
This is in response to the Official Action of April 6, 2005, in connection with the above identified application.

The Official Action is a restriction requirement in which it is urged that there are two separate and distinct inventions claimed in this application. Applicants elect the Group II invention which includes claims 1-8, without traverse. Applicants have canceled claims 9-19 without prejudice or disclaimer as being directed to the non-elected invention. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application on the non-elected invention at a later time.

In view of the election of the Group II invention, without traverse, an early and favorable action on the merits is now believed to be in order and is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

By:   
Richard E. Fichter  
Registration No. 26,382

625 Slaters Lane, 4<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
Phone: (703) 683-0500  
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

REF:kdd  
A01.wpd

May 4, 2005